

CITY OF MONONA
Ad Hoc Pedestrian & Bicycle Committee
Thursday, March 21, 2018
MINUTES

1. **Call To Order:** 6:33 PM by committee chair, Doug Wood.

2. **Roll Call:**

Members present: Chair Doug Wood, Alderperson Chad Speight, Mary Possin, Angie Fassl, Julia Byrnes, Larry Reed, Leslie Busse

Members Excused Absent: None.[a](#)

City Staff Present: Director of Public Works – Dan Stephany, Public Works Project Manager – Brad Bruun, City Administrator – April Little, Police Lieutenant – Curt Wiegel, Street Operations Foreman – Jeff Johnson

Professional Guests: Strand Engineers Inc. – Josh Straka and Tom Lynch; and Mariah Young-Jones, Associate – COWS / Legacy Community Alliance for Health

3. **Approval of Minutes:** **Approved** 2.22.2018 Minutes; First – Leslie, Second- Larry

4. **Appearances:** None

5. **Unfinished Business:**

A. Review of Destinations

Tom reviewed the goals and objectives from the February meeting. Mr. Lynch suggested sharing the goals and objectives at the upcoming public involvement meeting (PIM). He suggested that the public should have an opportunity to weigh in on the goals and objectives of the committee. He asked the committee members for input. Doug asked that the word “pedestrian” be added to the goals and objectives. Larry asked that the goals and objectives be added to the minutes for the meeting. Tom stated that the goals and objectives are still in draft form and it’s important to not dictate the goals and objectives to the public at the PIM, but instead should be asking for input from the public on the contents of the goals and objectives. Tom shared a graphic on destinations in the City. Tom gave brief summaries of deliverables from several UniverCity Alliance projects.

B. Review of Routes, Bikes, and Pedestrians

Tom shared a graphic showing routes based on pedestrian patterns showing directions used for walking or biking to destinations. Based on common routes to destinations Tom asked the committee if there were any missing links. Mary and Chad agreed that all Elementary Schools should be considered as key destinations and therefore the routes used to bike or walk to those schools should be considered. Brad referenced to the UniverCity Alliance study, which produced the graphic being shared, stating that the routes which were used and audited as part of the Safe Routes to School Study were only taken from 6 blocks out from each school. A 6-block radius (approximately .5 mile) is commonly used as the reference area for SRTS studies on Elementary Schools. A question was asked if Tonyawatha Trl. should be included as a main route considering its bicycle traffic or if it should be referenced as a route to school. Angie shared that most students tend to bike from Tonyawatha Trl. if they are not driven or bussed. Doug stated that there is not as much vehicle traffic on Tonyawatha and therefore the risk to pedestrian and biker safety along that corridor is nominal. Doug feels that Tonyawatha Trl. should not be the greater concern of the committee; however, it does seemingly need better or improved signage as it is the designated Lake Loop Bike Route. Larry agreed. Brad shared that there was a committee dedicated to bike wayfinding in Dane County and the result is a manual of shared sign templates. Dane County now has an agreed upon bike signage manual so that sign types and practices do not change drastically between municipalities and county. The group overall agreed to the routes proposed via the reference material for the UCY projects.

6. **New Business:**

A. Discuss Public Involvement Meeting Content

Tom proposed that the meeting should not be focused on potential roadway treatments and alternative designs. Some of the group disagreed because residents attending will naturally migrate to the topic of sidewalks and streetscape design. Leslie stated that the group should at least be ready for the discussion of sidewalks or street design. Leslie asked if hosting the meeting at the school is omitting the participation of other types of the City’s population, for instance, those who are not parents. Doug stated that the meeting outreach should make an emphasis

that this is for all Monona residents to attend. Chad added that those with differing opinions may likely be the individuals who attend the meeting due to their disagreement with the committee's purpose and what it might mean for their property. Chad referenced the results of the 2013 survey for the comprehensive plan. He stated that a majority of the responses were pro sidewalks and pro bike and pedestrian safety improvements. He stated that because of this majority response that this group (committee and council) needs to be the voice of reason in response to those who reject the idea of sidewalks. He stated that the committee should not allow themselves to say no to the addition of sidewalks even though the obvious answer is yes. In many cases there seems to be obvious alternatives to current street design. Doug added that we are getting ahead of ourselves assuming treatments. Mary and Leslie stated that people are going to assume we want to talk about sidewalks. Chad mentioned that the data needs to be presented and that it is reality. Leslie asked if sidewalks were being proposed for every street and that there needs to be a scope to the overall goal. Tom will format the summary for talking points and discussion, possibly provide a handout. Chad mentioned that the group should be able or ready to address the issues raised from the McKenna meeting. Present the petition for sidewalks on McKenna. April suggested making sure that parents know that children are welcome. Mary asked how we would gather input from the attendees. Tom suggested a simple questionnaire handout that they can fill out and hand in.

B. Discuss Public Involvement Meeting Logistics (Location, Date, Notice to Residents)

The committee discussed the time, location, outreach for the meeting. They confirmed Winnequah School Cafeteria, Tuesday – May 8th at 6:00 PM doors open, open house style with booths describing data and highlighting prior studies, 8:30 PM end time. 6:30 PM presentation starts. Tom commented on the efficiency of respondents to mailings. The group moved toward alternative forms of outreach. Angie stated that they can implement that “Backpack Brigade”. The school can do backpack/folder stuffers – Friday Folders, newsletters to parents, emails via Infinite Campus. Tom stated that the flyer can be posted on the doors of the school and well traveled locations in Monona. Larry suggested using WVMO. Leslie suggested using Next Door Monona. Other outreach suggestions included Senior Center, Parks Dept. Facebook, Sustainability Facebook, News Flash via website, email to subscriber lists on the website, reach out to other schools, local churches, Herald Independent, and the Library. The notice is the top of the priority list. Tom to produce a slideshow for presenting, flier, and handout/exhibits. April 3 distribution of contents and April 23 slides sent out to committee. Chad asked that folks volunteer to do a PSA.

C. Discuss Role of Legacy Community Alliance for Health

Tom introduced Mariah Young-Jones with the Legacy Community Alliance for Health (LCAH). Mariah gave a brief introduction to the LCAH. Their purpose is to assist communities with engaging current policy and planning with a health focus or lens. The goal is to improve health and health equity in the City. The LCAH can help provide staff training, materials, and other resources. She suggested that a goal should be to bring to the table those most affected by the scope of the committee's objectives. A good example of health in transportation planning is the overall effect of transportation on the population of a community. Communities use transportation modes to get access to life's essentials. Ability for a person to available access reliable modes of transportation can greatly increase their ability to be successful, happy, and healthy. Doug asked if we could make sure to highlight the Farmers Market, UW Health and Meriter Clinics. Doug asked what opportunities are there to promote outreach and equity? Mariah suggested doing some stakeholder mapping and understanding who the community messengers are for all those stakeholder groups. Tom suggested that outreach to Nuestro Mundo may provide a great opportunity for outreach to diverse groups of varying demographics. Angie informed the group that only 25 total students a year from Monona are able to attend Nuestro Mundo. Seniors are another community affected with higher disparity by transportation issues. Mariah also suggested that capturing the youth voice may be important.

7. **Next Meeting:** Public Involvement Meeting – May, 8th at 6:00 PM, Winnequah Elementary School Cafeteria
8. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM – Motion by Larry Reed and Leslie Busse

Prepared By:
Brad Bruun

Please contact Brad Bruun, bbruun@ci.monona.wi.us, 608-222-2525 with any questions about the minutes or meeting agendas.